

UC Management Record Lousy

FIVE REASONS WHY the University of California (Los Alamos National Laboratory manager) is a lousy manager and/or not good for New Mexico:

1. UC fosters an arrogant, largely unaccountable culture at LANL that shoots its whistleblowing messengers rather than genuinely seeking to correct its problems.

2. Because of its "educational, nonprofit" status while performing nuclear weapons work at LANL, UC is exempted from paying federal fines for environmental and security violations and pays no taxes to New Mexico (Sandia Lab pays taxes for comparable work).

3. UC holds a double standard between California and New Mexico. Two examples: UC refuses to extend California worker protection rights to LANL employees and explosive experiments with plutonium are barred in its home state but are slated to triple here.

4. UC does not really care about the environment in New Mexico. UC operated the lab for six years in willful violation of the Clean Air Act, buries radioactive wastes in un-permitted dumps and largely squandered an estimated \$700 million in ineffective cleanup (too bad New Mexican contractors hadn't done that work). UC is now pushing its new "accelerated cleanup" plan that will leave over 90 percent of the lab's radioactive wastes buried forever. Further, in conjunction with the Department of Energy, UC currently has no less than seven legal actions (paid for by taxpayers) against New Mexico's attempts to mandate stronger environmental protection at LANL.

5. UC's mismanagement of LANL is not isolated; instead UC is a two-time loser by also mismanaging the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in California. There, construction costs for the "National Ignition Facility" (NIF) skyrocketed from \$1.8 billion to \$4 billion and the

completion schedule slipped five years. Nevertheless UC-employed Livermore director misleadingly testified twice to Congress that NIF was "on budget and schedule."

Both DOE and New Mexico can do better than to have continued UC management of LANL. DOE should do the right thing and put the lab contract out to bid. If UC can't stand the heat of competition, then it should get out of the kitchen!

Jay Coghlan
Nuclear Watch of New Mexico
Santa Fe

Too Late For 'Good Faith Effort'

(RE: CITY INSPECTIONS for low-flow toilets:)

Why would the very people that are elected to watch out for our welfare in the way the city follows the law, give the people a chance or, as it was put in the paper, to work with them if they show a "good faith effort." What good faith effort? They have had most of a year to change to the low-flow toilet and have not done so. ...

We are already hearing about water shortage this next summer. come on City Council do what is right for the most not just the few.

Paul H. Moore
Santa Fe

Lovers of Peace Hard To Classify

READING TWO LETTERS in the Dec. 22 Albuquerque Journal addressing the "freeloaders" and "displaced commies" and "freaks" (as those in the peace movement were described, among other things), I feel moved to respond.

I come to the peace movement as daughter of a lifelong volunteer fire fighter and police officer, sister of a Vietnam veteran, mother of two sons eligible for the draft and/or enlistment, aunt to a soldier in the Special Forces Afghanistan and an acquaintance of a family who lost their husband and father on Sept. 11 in New York City; a brave firefighter returning to the scene of the terrible inferno in an attempt to rescue others.

Those who stand up for peace are not a group that can be easily written off or categorized with a few simple phrases and names. We are your neighbors. We are your colleagues. We are your children and your children's children. We are real people who care deeply for this land, who care deeply not only for our own precious freedom, but for the freedom and the very lives of *all* people — all Americans (Native, African-American, Arab, Hispanic, and

Santa Fe County is Seeking Volunteers for the Planning and Advisory Committee

Santa Fe County is requesting volunteers to serve on the County and Advisory Committee (COLTPAC) to assist in further development and Trails Program. COLTPAC members should be enthusiastically working in a consensus building environment. COLTPAC members will represent the County and advise the County on potential acquisition management and planning, and oversee the implementation of the program. Positions are currently open for representatives for the North, Central, and South of the County, as well as an alternate position. If you would like to volunteer, please fill out the application form and return it to the County Office, interest which clearly outlines your qualifications and interests in

Open Space and Trails Program

Attn: Paul Olafson, Program Manager

Santa Fe County

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Application deadline: 5:00 p.m. January 15, 2003

